United Nations E/CN.3/2009/27

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
24 December 2008

Original: English

Statistical Commission
Fortieth session
24-27 February 2009
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Programme questions (United Nations Statistics Division)

Draft programme of work of the United Nations Statistics Division for the biennium 2010-2011

Note by the Secretariat

1. The draft programme of work in the field of statistics for the biennium 2010-2011, which is contained in the annex to the present note, is submitted for the consideration of the Statistical Commission in compliance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8).

2. The General Assembly has approved, in its resolution 63/247 of 24 December 2008, the biennial programme plan for the period 2010-2011, which includes the elements of the "programme narrative", namely, the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of the statistics subprogramme.

3. The draft programme of work presented below includes, in addition to the programme narrative, a list of outputs formulated within the framework of subprogramme 5, Statistics, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, for the period 2010-2011.

4. The Commission is invited to take note of the programme narrative and to review the proposed outputs to be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011, which will be submitted to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the General Assembly at the sixty-fourth session of the Assembly.

* E/CN.3/2009/1.

08-64591 (E) 311208

Annex

Draft programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011 for the Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Objective of the Organization: To advance the global statistical system in order to produce high-quality, easily accessible comparable national statistics for policymakers and other users at the national and international levels

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened global statistical system, with more active participation by countries and increased collaboration among international organizations, including progress in the harmonization and rationalization of development indicators	(a) (i) Increased number of participants from countries and international organizations attending the sessions of the Statistical Commission, workshops, expert group meetings and seminars (ii) Increased number of collaborative activities carried out with international organizations on the rationalization and harmonization of development indicators
(b) Better and broader use by Governments, international organizations, research institutes, the private sector and the general public of statistical data and technical guidelines produced by the subprogramme	(b) (i) Increased number of requests satisfied for statistical data (ii) Increased percentage of visits to the Statistics Division website
(c) Strengthened capacity of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to routinely collect, compile, store, analyse and disseminate official statistics and indicators in the economic, social, demographic and environmental fields to produce quality data for policymakers and the public in general	(c) Increased percentage of participants that utilized knowledge obtained at training workshops

External factors

The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that national statistical offices will have the necessary resources and capacity.

Outputs

During the biennium 2010-2011, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) General Assembly:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: Fifth Committee, scale of assessments (20);

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports, background papers and conference room papers on the scale of assessments for the Fifth Committee (1);

(ii) Statistical Commission:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the forty-first and forty-second sessions of the Statistical Commission (14);

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports to the Statistical Commission (on the themes decided by the Commission in 2009) (23);

(iii) Committee on Contributions:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the Committee on Contributions (70);

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports, background papers and conference room papers on the scale of assessments for the Committee on Contributions (4);

(iv) United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the twenty-sixth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (12);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report on the twenty-sixth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (1);

(v) Ad hoc expert groups: 20 expert group meetings on: international migration; population and housing censuses; gender statistics; social statistics; climate change; environment statistics; international economic and social classifications; national accounts; environmental-economic accounting (2); system of environmental-economic accounting for energy (1); system of environmental-economic accounting for material flow accounts (1); Millennium Development Goals indicators (2 meetings per year) (4); international merchandise trade statistics (1); compilation of external trade indices (1); statistics of international trade in services (1); infrastructure and basic data sources for compilation of economic statistics (1);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications (237): demographic and social statistics website (8); 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses website (8); *Demographic Yearbook* (2); *Population and Vital Statistics Report* series A, biweekly electronic version (24); social indicators website (twice-yearly update) (4); *Population and Vital Statistics Report*, series A (print) (4); website on environment statistics (2); environmental indicators (web) (1); environmental country profiles (2); *ENVSTATS* newsletter (4); website on classifications (2); newsletter on classifications (4); *Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook* (print and CD-ROM) (2); website on industry statistics (2); *National Accounts Statistics: Analysis of Main Aggregates, 2008 and 2009* (2);

National Accounts Statistics: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables, 2008 and 2009 (2); website on national accounts (2); newsletter on national accounts (4); website on environmental accounting (2); environment-economic accounting newsletter (4); Millennium Development Goals report and statistical annex for the Secretary-General's office (2); millennium indicators database update (2); website on Millennium Development Goals (2); glossy report on the Millennium Development Goals (2); progress chart on the Millennium Development Goals (2); progress chart on the Millennium Development Goals based on country progress within regions (2); Millennium Development Goals Info (2); Millennium Development Goals — aid information (2); website of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (4); website on technical cooperation (8); website of the Inter-Agency Expert Group (2); website on national statistical systems (2); *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* (print and Internet) (48); *Statistical Yearbook* (2); UNdata website (12); *World Statistics Pocketbook* (2); United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names information bulletin (3); website on geographical information (4); website on city groups (2); website of the Statistical Commission (2); website on standards and methods (2); website of the Statistics Division (8); website of the Statistics Division, publication archive (2); *Energy Statistics Yearbook* 2008 and 2009 (2); *Energy Balances and Electricity Profiles* 2008 and 2009 (2); energy statistics online database (1); *Energy Statistics Newsletter* (4); website on energy statistics (2); Yearbook of International Trade Statistics, vols. I and II (2); UN Comtrade database on international merchandise trade statistics on the Internet (2); UN Services Trade database on statistics of international trade in services on the Internet (2); newsletter of the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (4); website of the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (2); online annex to the Yearbook of International Trade Statistics, vols. I and II (2); newsletter on international merchandise trade statistics (4); website on statistics of international trade in services (2); website on international merchandise trade statistics (2);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications (20): International Classification of Activities in Time-Use Surveys (Internet update) (1); Compendium of Housing Statistics (1); *The World's Women 2010* (1); *Data Compilation Manual for Water Statistics* (1); revised framework for the development of environment statistics (1); *Handbook on National Accounts* (1); *System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Energy* (1); *System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Material Flow Accounts* (1); Millennium Development Goals thematic brochure (2); GenderInfo (2); *International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts, Definitions and Strategies, Revision 3* (1); *International Merchandise Trade Statistics Compilers Manual, Revised* (1); handbook on good practices in compilation of external trade indices (merchandise trade) (1); national practices in the compilation and dissemination of statistics in international trade in services (online) (1); handbook on the compilation of statistics on international trade in services by national statistical offices (1); handbook on infrastructure and basic data sources for compilation of economic statistics (1); international recommendations for energy statistics (1); national practices in the compilation and dissemination of distributive trade statistics (online) (1);

(iii) Technical material: development and maintenance of statistical databases for the collection, processing, printing and dissemination of statistical data in the areas of environment statistics, energy statistics, commodity production statistics, index number of industrial production, national accounts, demographic statistics, international trade statistics and classifications (2); technical development and maintenance of the Millennium Development Goals indicators database and documentation and training (yearly) (2); responses to ad hoc requests from Member States and other users for information on internationally recommended concepts and methods, as well as national practices, in the aforementioned fields of statistics (2); standardized statistical data metadata exchange, coordination with relevant agencies within the inter-agency and expert group on Millennium Development Goals indicators (2); standardized statistical data metadata exchange, collaboration with the International Monetary Fund, the Bank for International Settlements and others in the inter-agency working group (2); updated documentation on database maintenance and revised training materials (2);

(iv) Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings: meetings of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (4); meetings of cluster 10, Statistics, Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs (2); subgroups on Millennium Development Goals indicators (2 meetings per year) (4); advisory teams on gender statistics (4); Advisory Group on Environmental-Economic Accounting and Environment Statistics (3).